

7. CAPITAL FACILITIES AND UTILITIES

INTRODUCTION

The Capital Facilities & Utilities Element is intended to guide Lewis County in assuring that the public facilities and services county residents rely on will continue to fulfill their needs both now and in the future. This Element focuses on both those facilities that the County is responsible for owning, operating, and funding and for facilities operated by private utilities and special districts.

~~The Capital Facilities & Utilities Element contains a~~ A six-year Capital Facilities Plan (CFP) that supports Lewis County's current needs and near term growth and identifies necessary funding sources for those facilities is developed annually by the County. Each annual update is adopted by reference in the Capital Facilities and Utilities Element of the county Comprehensive Plan and is available through the Budget/Fiscal Services Department. Longer term facility needs for the 20-year life of the Comprehensive Plan are ~~also~~ identified in this element to the extent they are known.

Lewis County annually develops a Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to address roadway deficiencies. The deficiencies can be capacity- or safety related. Most of the improvements included in the Six-year TIP are intended to address safety related deficiencies or pavement restoration. The projects listed for implementation in the first of the six years comprise the annual transportation program. The remaining five years serve as the guide to the remaining short term projects. The County's anticipated long term (20 years) projects are listed in the Transportation Element. Each annual update is hereby adopted by reference in the Capital Facilities and Utilities Element of the county Comprehensive Plan and is available through the Public Works Department.

School Districts that are seeking state funding for a capital facility or would like to establish school mitigation fees must prepare a capital facilities plan and project future enrollment and facility capacity. In order to collect school impact fees on behalf of the districts, the County must adopt school district capital facility plans, and updates by resolution. Those districts without capital facilities plans adopted by County resolution are not eligible for impact fees. The school district capital facility plans that are adopted by County resolution are hereby adopted by reference in the Capital Facilities and Utilities Element of the county Comprehensive Plan. School district capital facilities plans that have been adopted by the county can be found on the Comprehensive Plan website.

Water supply and sewage waste disposal, schools, fire protection and the delivery of natural gas, electricity, and telecommunication services are provided by special districts and private utilities. Without coordination and conscientious planning for future growth, service may be interrupted, inadequate or prohibitively expensive. ~~This Capital Facilities and Utilities Element is also linked with the Transportation Element.~~